

NEW MEXICO  
FY 10 ANNUAL REPORT NARRATIVE  
CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM  
ON ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED UNDER THE NEW MEXICO PROTOCOL,  
FISCAL YEAR 10  
(Reporting Period August 1, 2009 through July 31, 2010)

**Major Accomplishments**

**The Permian Basin Mitigation Program: Changing the Way We Manage Cultural Resources**

New Mexico continued to implement the Permian Basin Mitigation Program Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) in FY10. This agreement outlines procedures for mitigating adverse effects to cultural sites and historic properties through innovative research and outreach programs. The mitigation program is a coordinated effort between the BLM, the NM State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the oil and gas industry, Native American tribes, and the New Mexico Archaeological Council. The NM SHPO has agreed to extend the term of the MOA beyond its initial 5 years (we are presently in the third year).

In FY10, the MOA was utilized for 429 projects, resulting in over \$900,000 in participant contributions that will be used to fund archaeological research in southeastern NM. The MOA continues to have a significant impact on the Carlsbad Field Office cultural resource staff workload and program emphasis. The staff's workload has shifted from reviewing a large number of small repetitive projects to overseeing proactive projects awarded with Permian Basin MOA funding.

Several projects funded through the Permian Basin MOA were either completed through contract with one of the four firms in the Permian Basin MOA IDIQ contract or are in progress during FY 10.

- The *Archaeological Inventory of Un-surveyed Areas* project was completed by Lone Mountain Archaeological Services. The project inventoried 3,359 acres of BLM land, recording 87 new sites and updating 9 sites.
- Fieldwork for the *Mescalero Apache Ethnographic Inventory* project was completed by TRC. Six areas of interest to the Mescalero Tribe were identified and approximately 400 acres were archaeologically inventoried.
- A Permian Basin MOA *Data Comparability Workshop* was conducted by SWCA. Final data comparability standards are forthcoming.
- Fieldwork for *Archaeological Investigations at the Laguna Plata Site* was completed by TRC. Laboratory analysis and report preparation are in progress.
- Fieldwork for the *Boothill Site Testing* project was completed by TRC. Laboratory analysis and report preparation are in progress.
- A contract was awarded to SWCA for *Documentation of the Burro Tanks Site* in the Roswell Field Office. Fieldwork is currently underway.

- In addition, nine small research grants were awarded through the Permian Basin MOA to students, independent researchers, and contractors. Fieldwork and results are ongoing.



Mescalero Apache women harvesting agave, then and now.

Participation in the program by archaeologists, historic preservationists, Native American tribes, and the oil and gas industry continues to be extraordinary. The Permian Basin Advisory Workgroup conducted two meetings to provide research direction and priorities.

In FY 10, BLM archaeologists George MacDonell and Sarah Schlanger and Permian Basin MOA contractors presented papers at a session at the Jornada Mogollon Conference in El Paso, Texas; a session on the Jornada Mogollon at the 2010 Society for American Archaeology meetings in St. Louis; and a National Trust sponsored forum on "flag and avoid" as a practice in current archaeology at the St. Louis SAA meetings. A poster on the Permian Basin MOA was presented at the 2009 Plains Archaeological Conference. The 2010-01 New Mexico Archaeological Council newsletter focused on the Permian Basin MOA and contained articles on ongoing research projects. George MacDonell gave presentation on the current status of the Permian Basin MOA at the Southeastern New Mexico Oil and Gas Association meeting in Roswell. BLM continues to develop statements of work for program priorities and will continue to contract for this work through the Permian Basin MOA indefinite quantities contract.

### **Mesa Prieta Petroglyph Project**

For the ninth straight year the BLM worked with Vecinos del Rio, a non-profit group, on a two-week petroglyph recording project on public lands on Mesa Prieta near Velarde, New Mexico. Vecinos del Rio recruited and trained local teenagers to record rock art. The students were signed up as BLM volunteers and supervised by BLM archaeologist Paul Williams and other adult members of Vecinos del Rio and the Taos Archaeological Society. Students included Native Americans from the Ohkay-Owinge, as well as youths from Velarde, Dixon and the Espanola area. The youths used GPS, digital photography and extensive written documentation to record about forty panels of petroglyphs that they discovered during the inventory.

A special project this year included working with geographers from BLM's Resource Technology Section of the National Operations Center in Denver on a photogrammetry project. With the students help in the field, the geographers produce beautiful 3D images of boulders covered with petroglyphs. This could be a great educational tool for interpretive displays. Data recorded during the project is now in a GIS data base that will be a powerful tool for data curation and research.

The BLM is a major partner with Vecinos del Rio on this monumental project with the long-term goal of locating and documenting all of the archaeological sites on Mesa Prieta, while educating the local youth about the importance of the archaeological resources in their area. This project is a National Public Lands Day and a Take It Outside event.

### **New Mexico's National Historic Trails Program**

New Mexico serves the Bureau as the co-administrator of the Old Spanish and El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro National Historic Trails. Administration of these trails

is shared with the National Park Service. In FY10, New Mexico provided national leadership for a seven-state American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) project to carry out field inventory of nearly 500 miles of high potential route segments on the Old Spanish, El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro, California, Oregon, Mormon Pioneer, and Pony Express National Historic Trails. The field inventory will develop data on historic sites and setting, provide baseline data on resource condition, and result in an integrated GIS for historic trail resources. Field work began in August, 2010; the project will be complete in January, 2012. This project dovetails with the Bureau's National Scenic and Historic Trails policy initiatives, including the development of a manual and handbook series for these unique resources. The project Statement of Work provides a blueprint for resource and setting recordation that can be used on trail resources across the public lands.

The New Mexico program relies on partnerships outside the agency to carry out trail protection, preservation, and development goals. New Mexico has partnered with the Old Spanish Trail Association to develop a multi-state trail steward training program. Training classes kick off this year in Arizona, and will be held in New Mexico and Colorado next year. Our partnership with El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro Trail Association (CARTA) and the National Park Service will launch an international training program in cultural landscape documentation for advanced university and college students in 2011. CARTA members assisted in the development of two interpretive trails on El Camino Real that will be officially opened to the public on October 30, 2010.



El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro Trail Association past-President Pat Beckett, Sarah Schlanger (BLM), Edgar Urban (Mexico City), and Ruben Durazo (Durango, Mexico) on Jornada del Muerto during development of Mexican nomination of El Camino Real to World Heritage List. El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro in Mexico was inscribed on the list on August 1, 2010.

### **Museum of New Mexico Assistance with Curation of BLM Collections**

During FY 10, New Mexico BLM entered into an assistance agreement with the Museum of New Mexico Foundation (the non-profit "friends" group for the Museum of New Mexico) for the curation and care of archaeological collections, as well as the preparation of annual collections and NAGPRA reports. The Museum of New Mexico is the preferred repository for all archaeological collections from BLM lands in New Mexico; it holds by far the largest collections from public lands in New Mexico.

The agreement uses Challenge Cost Share funds to undertake basic collections management tasks such as condition assessments, storage, cataloguing, and reporting. Therefore, the dollar match for the initial agreement is \$10,000, or approximately 1,000 volunteer hours.

In addition, the assistance agreement will be used for documentation of the Navajo grayware collection of about 40 complete or nearly complete grayware vessels from Largo Canyon, northwest New Mexico, transferred in FY 09 to the repository at the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture/Laboratory of Anthropology. The Navajo Grayware collection was forfeited as part of an ARPA prosecution. The collection will be described and documented in detail, and a web exhibit will be produced that uses the details of the ARPA case, as well as data about this world class collection of vessels, to send a message to the general public about removing artifacts from public lands. Work on this project is due to begin in FY 11.

### **Other Accomplishments**

#### National Programmatic Agreement implementation

- The New Mexico State Office hosted the June 2010 BLM Historic Preservation Board meeting in Santa Fe. A highlight of the meetings was a presentation and field exercise on photogrammetry conducted by Neffra Matthews and Tom Noble of the National Operations Center. This documentation method has great potential for a variety of cultural resources located on BLM lands.
- The New Mexico State Office sponsored a BLM New Mexico cultural resources staff workshop at the Rio Puerco Field Office in Albuquerque in March 2010. The cultural resources staff had not met as a group since November 2007, and there were more issues to discuss than time allotted. New Mexico intends to incorporate annual cultural resource staff and management meetings into the next version of the New Mexico cultural resources protocol.
- State Archaeologist Signa Larralde served on the BLM Preservation Board's Education and Training Committee by assisting with planning the "Fundamentals for Managing Cultural Resources" course offered through the BLM National Training Center, and also with teaching the course in March 2010.

- State Archaeologist Signa Larralde gave a presentation to the Executive Leadership Team on the existing nPA, the New Mexico protocol, and the proposed nPA in February 2010.
- The New Mexico Cultural Resources Program now holds monthly conference calls with all cultural resources staff in New Mexico/Oklahoma/Texas/Kansas.

### Native American coordination and consultation

Field Offices and the State Office continue to coordinate and consult with Native Americans. The Farmington Field Office and the Rio Puerco Field Office consult regularly with the Navajo Nation and affected Chapters on oil and gas leasing, land exchanges, and undertakings within cultural ACECs. The Roswell and Carlsbad Field Offices consult with tribes on oil and gas lease sale offerings. Oklahoma archaeologist Rick Fields is building relationships with the 40+ tribes in Oklahoma, Texas and Kansas as part of his compliance duties in the Oklahoma Field Office.

- Farmington Field Office: Major consultation efforts are progressing with several tribes and three non-governmental consulting parties regarding oil and gas leasing near Chaco Culture National Historical Park. To date, three face to face meetings have been held.
- Las Cruces District Office: Meetings for the SunZia Southwest Transmission Project and the Solar PEIS were held with the following tribes: the Pueblo of Zuni, the Pueblo of Isleta, the Mescalero Apache, the Fort Sill Apache, the San Carlos Apache, the Tohono O'odham Nation, the Pascua Yaqui, and the Ak-Chin Indian Community.
- Oklahoma Field Office:
  - Richard Fields and Holly Smith, Oklahoma Field Office archaeologists, attended the DOI Tribal Listening Session in Oklahoma City, along with Signa Larralde, NMSO State Archaeologist, and Bill Merhege, Deputy Director for Lands and Resources, NMSO.
  - Richard Fields worked with the Choctaw THPO to mitigate the Melone well and preserve a probable Choctaw homestead.
  - Richard Fields worked with Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribe and the SHPO to mitigate a Cheyenne-Arapaho farmstead during well pad development.
  - Richard Fields consulted with the Absentee Shawnee on Tribal Trust land involving a Traditional Cultural Property and cemetery which was affected by well pad development.
  - Richard Fields worked with the Minerals Management Service on tribal consultation for Oklahoma coal fields.

### Museum Collections Management

The Museum of New Mexico and New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs are

constructing the new Center for New Mexico Archaeology. This repository, which will hold extensive collections from public lands, is being built on lands provided to the state by the BLM through the Recreation and Public Purposes Act land-transfer program. The new building is due to be completed in fall 2010.

- Farmington Field Office
  - A collection of prehistoric sandals was retrieved from law enforcement for documentation and curation. The sandals were part of an old ARPA case and were no longer needed as evidence.
  - Farmington Field Office Archaeologist Jim Copeland located a major collection of prehistoric specimens illegally removed from BLM/Federal lands in 1937, now housed at the Museum of Man, San Diego. The collection includes at least 107 sandals and 56 other perishables specimens removed from the La Magna Rockshelter (LA82643) in 1937 by Temple Cornelius.
- Roswell Field Office: Plans were finalized with the Hubbard Museum of the American West for the Feather Cave display.

#### Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) compliance

- Farmington Field Office
  - Three tribes were notified of the discovery of human remains exposed by natural erosion at site LA167315.
  - Notifications are pending of the discovery of additional human remains exposed by natural erosion at site LA58888.
- New Mexico State Office
  - As part of the statewide BLM cultural resources workshop, Emily Palus, National BLM NAGPRA Coordinator, conducted one-day NAGPRA training for cultural resources and law enforcement staff in New Mexico. Emily's high energy presentation style plus the scope of new information presented about NAGPRA made this a valuable experience for all who attended. The presence of law enforcement personnel enhanced the training for the cultural resources staff.
  - State Archaeologist Signa Larralde worked with BLM Law Enforcement Officer Steve Martin of the Las Cruces District Office and with Chris Dudar of the Smithsonian Institution and Heather Edgar of the Maxwell Museum to transfer custody of two skulls recovered from a private museum in Ohio from the FBI to BLM. The skulls are from Casamero Pueblo; they were illegally excavated and sold during the 1960s. They are housed with other human remains and artifacts from Casamero at the Maxwell Museum until the Casamero materials are claimed by Native American tribes through NAGPRA.

## Resource Protection Projects and Activities

### Identification, Recordation and Evaluation

- NM BLM oversaw inventory of 61,204 acres on BLM-administered lands and non-BLM-administered lands in FY10, down almost 30,000 acres from FY09. New cultural properties recorded on BLM-administered and non-BLM-administered surface dropped to 987, down 10 percent from FY09. The Carlsbad Field Office continues to account for the majority of acres surveyed; the Carlsbad office oversaw more than four times the survey performed in the next highest office.
- Farmington and Carlsbad continue to support significant NHPA Section 106 workloads as measured in numbers of undertakings requiring Class III inventory. Probably because of the economic downturn, the number of undertakings in these offices is less than 50% of the FY 08 total. Farmington archaeologists Michael Dussinger and Peggy Gaudy provide support for Farmington's extraordinary compliance workload. Carlsbad archaeologists Bruce Boeke, Martin Stein, and Jeremy Iliff provide support for Carlsbad's workload.
- Carlsbad Field Office
  - The *Rockshelter Inventory* project was completed by EMI, resulting in updated site location and condition information for 33 rockshelters in the Carlsbad Field Office. Supported by landscape project funds from the Washington Office, this project was administered by Carlsbad Archaeologist Bruce Boeke.
  - Carlsbad Archaeologist Lynn Robinson completed a National Register Nomination for the Pope's Well Archaeological Site. The nomination is currently being reviewed by SHPO.
- Farmington Field Office
  - Portions of the Chaco Great North Road were inventoried with volunteer field school students from San Juan College, totaling about 100 person hours of volunteer labor.
  - Dendrochronological samples were collected from one BLM managed site by the University of Arizona Laboratory of Tree-ring Research.
  - With financial contributions from the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the Solstice Project, LIDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) imagery was collected along the North Road.
  - Fort Lewis College conducted resistivity survey at the historic Haynes Cemetery in Largo Canyon and provided information to BLM.

- Las Cruces District Office: District archaeologist Tom Holcomb oversaw the Southern Mimbres Archaeological Project, a Challenge Cost Share agreement with the University of Oklahoma, focusing on the archaeology of the Southern Mimbres area. Over 1500 acres were surveyed and numerous sites recorded and evaluated.
- Oklahoma Field Office: Richard Fields worked on four Long Term Holding Facility contracts for the Wild Horse and Burro Program, providing archaeological clearance on ranches with approximately 40,000 acres of pasture lands.
- Rio Puerco Field Office:
  - El Malpais NCA – Aldridge Petroglyph Panel Area: A proactive inventory of 450 acres around the significant Aldridge Petroglyph Panel was completed in 2010. During the inventory, 17 newly discovered sites were recorded, and 10 previously recorded sites were updated.
  - San Ysidro Trials Area: A proactive inventory of 1,380 acres of the Trials Area was contracted in FY2010, and is expected to be completed by mid-September.
  - El Malpais NCA – Cebolla Canyon Homesteads: The University of Arizona Laboratory of Tree Ring Research conducted its summer field school at a 20<sup>th</sup> century Anglo-American homestead in El Malpais NCA this May. This was supported by a Challenge Cost Share grant of \$10,000. Tree ring dates will help to establish site occupation history and use of wood resources, and also the rate of deterioration of the site. The tree ring research is also contributing to the knowledge of the long-term impacts of homesteading on the soil, hydrology, and timber of El Malpais.
  - Rock Art Recording: A BLM volunteer group co-sponsored by the Albuquerque Archaeological Society has undertaken detailed recording of rock art sites in the Rio Puerco Field Office area. The group has completed recording known rock art in the Ojito Wilderness and San Ysidro Trials Area, as well as several smaller sites throughout the field office. The group has completed recording most of the petroglyphs in a large rock art site on Espinosa Ridge near the Ball Ranch ACEC.



Rock Art volunteer Dick Yeck on Espinosa Ridge. Photo by Carol Chamberland.

- Socorro Field Office
  - The Chaco Frontier Communities field school (Dr. Andrew Duff, Washington State University) performed approximately 1000 acres of inventory this year between Cox Ranch pueblo and Cerro Pomo Pueblo, the two most southerly known Chacoan outliers, and recorded 23 new sites.
  - Socorro Field Office volunteers intensively recorded a petroglyph site near San Antonio.



Socorro Field Office volunteers conduct intensive recording of a petroglyph site near San Antonio, New Mexico (photo: Brenda Wilkinson, BLM).

- Taos Field Office
  - Dr. Severin Fowles and his students from Barnard College continued their cultural resources inventory within the Rio Grande Gorge near Taos. The students continue to discover and record scratched petroglyphs representing tipis, horses and riders and other figures probably created by Utes and possibly Comanches and Apaches in historic times. The petroglyphs show many horses but no guns and are thought to date to the early 18<sup>th</sup> century. Magnetometer survey and mapping has shown that there are many likely tipi rings in the location of the petroglyphs.
  - Taos BLM archaeologists led by Merrill Dicks and funded through the Fire Program, are continuing a large inventory in the Cerro Montoso Area, which is documenting the cultural resources in a previously under-inventoried area. This inventory has already provided much information about the archaeology of the Northern Unit northwest of Taos.

- Heavily used portions of the Rio Grande and Rio Chama Wild and Scenic Rivers are being inventoried under contract. The report is due in FY 11.

### Stabilization and Rehabilitation

- Farmington Field Office
  - YCC students under cultural staff direction and assistance assisted in recovery of a significant cultural resource feature dislodged by arroyo slumping in Bancos Canyon.
  - A stabilization assessment of Simon Ruin, a middle 18<sup>th</sup> century Navajo defensive site, was completed to plan repairs and maintenance.

### Monitoring and Site Protection

FY10 site protection efforts for BLM NM include continued development of site steward programs, administrative actions, and physical protection projects.

- Farmington Field Office
  - YCC students under cultural staff direction and assistance constructed protective fencing around an archaeological rock art site in Largo Canyon and completed trail repair in the Crow Canyon ACEC.
  - Northwestern New Mexico Site Stewards continue to monitor sites on behalf of BLM.
- Las Cruces District Office: David Legare and Thomas Holcomb continued their support of the district volunteer archaeological site monitoring program. The site monitors annually visit and assess condition for over one hundred significant archaeological and historic sites and districts.
- Rio Puerco Field Office
  - The Rio Puerco Field Office has an active BLM volunteer program, with 45 volunteers who visited more than 600 BLM-managed sites. One crew, led by retired BLM archaeologist Tony Lutonsky, is recording previously unrecorded sites. A second crew is recording sites in an area not previously known to contain high density cultural resources. All volunteers monitor for looting and other sources of deterioration and install anti-looting/anti-vandalism signs to protect cultural resources.
  - The Rio Puerco Field Office participates in the SiteWatch site steward program established by the New Mexico Historic Preservation Division. Twenty site stewards from two established chapters of this program are now formally monitoring critical archeological and historic sites in

the Rio Puerco, as well as reporting unrecorded sites in unexplored areas.

- Roswell Field Office: Archaeologist Rebecca Hill investigated damage to a petroglyph site, placed “no shooting” signs in the area, and placed cameras to monitor the site.
- Socorro Field Office: Site monitoring inspections at 31 sites were conducted during the reporting period. Six were monitored by volunteers, and the remaining sites were monitored by BLM staff.
- Taos Field Office: The site watch program in the Taos Field Office is represented by a Galisteo Group and a Taos Group. Over thirty-five sites are now being monitored by site stewards and more will be added. Taos site stewards have been researching historic structures near Taos Junction Bridge in the Orilla Verde Recreation Area, and an interpretive handout for visitors to the area is being produced. Taos site stewards are also carefully working with rock art vandalism mitigation, learning to remove paint on boulders and to fill in scratched vandalism with special pigments.

#### Data Recovery Projects:

- Amarillo Field Office: The Landis Property Archaeological Data Recovery Project has been completed in the Amarillo Field Office. TRC, Inc excavated an Archaic component, a Woodland component, and a Protohistoric component at three sites along West Amarillo Creek just north of Amarillo. Data recovery included an extensive geomorphological study, environmental reconstruction, and environmental sampling of ground stone and firecracked rock to better understand plant foods processed at the three sites. The sites also contained a considerable quantity of bison bones. The property was transferred to the Girl Scouts as part of BLM’s disposal of two helium plants in the Amarillo area.
- Carlsbad Field Office
  - Martin Stein, Carlsbad Field Office archaeologist, completed an obsidian sourcing project for all known obsidian samples from the Carlsbad Field Office area. Over 130 XRF samples were processed, and the results are forthcoming.
  - The Carlsbad Field Office supported an obsidian sourcing project conducted by Phil LeTourneau. Results of this project were presented at the 2010 Society for American Archaeology Meetings.

- Carlsbad Field Office cultural staff conducted data recovery on a roasting pit feature that was impacted by a salt water spill at site LA165923. Laboratory analysis of samples is ongoing.

#### Heritage tourism interpretive developments

- Las Cruces District Office: A public room paleontological exhibit was developed on the Prehistoric Trackways National Monument.
- Socorro Field Office
  - On June 9, 2010 20 senior staff and NCOs from 615<sup>th</sup> Transportation Division conducted a staff training exercise or "staff ride" at Fort Craig. They were assisted by members of the Friends of Fort Selden reenactors' group who came in Civil War period dress and with period weapons including a mountain howitzer.





The Friends of Fort Selden reenactors group provided a lesson in Civil War era arms.

- A tourism video about Fort Craig was produced and shown several times on television.
- Two audio productions were completed through a contract with Jack Loeffler, one on Fort Craig and one on all of New Mexico's territorial forts and their role in history. Loeffler also completed a forts bibliography.
- The Fort Craig brochure was edited, updated and reprinted.
- A kiosk and interpretive sign were placed at a newly constructed pull off along the road to El Camino Real International Heritage Center.
- The Socorro Oral History Project gathered momentum: four new oral histories were collected and four transcribed. The local newspaper can't get enough; the community responded enthusiastically to both the newspaper and to BLM. The project provides new data that will be useful for the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Homestead Act in 2012. One Socorro Oral History Project homestead is planned for a BLM video feature.



Ben E. Kemp

The Jewell Derrick oral history interview resulted in historical detail regarding Anglo settlement near Zuni Salt Lake. Ben E. Kemp and his family homesteaded in this remote area of west central New Mexico. Ben E. had been with the Texas Rangers before settling in New Mexico and drilling some of the earliest wells in the territory with a horse powered rig.



This rock house is the first Kemp Homestead near Zuni Salt Lake, applied for in 1910 and relinquished in 1914.



Kemp family on the front porch of their second Salt Lake homestead. Beulah Kemp (Jewell Derrick's mother) is second from the left. The photo was probably taken ca.1918.

- Taos Field Office: The Taos Field Office is leading implementation of the Galisteo Basin Archaeological Protection Sites Act, which addresses protection and preservation needs of 24 significant villages, rock art, and limited use sites associated with late and historic Pueblo occupation in the Galisteo Basin south of modern Santa Fe.

In FY09, this program received an earmark appropriation of \$500,000. These funds are supporting contracts to develop a comprehensive management plan for the sites named in the Act and an ethnographic overview, and assistance agreements to complete a National Register nomination and to gather additional site assessment data. These products will reflect the unique aspects of this region, including ancestral sites critical to the modern Pueblos, a complex modern land ownership pattern, extraordinary public interest in the archaeological sites, and on-going, intractable preservation challenges.

#### Public Outreach, Public Involvement and Training

- Carlsbad Field Office
  - Jeremy Iliff, Carlsbad Field Office archaeologist, conducted archaeology projects as part of National Environmental Education Week for 400 students, and at the Earth Day/March for Parks event at Living Desert State Park.
  - Martin Stein, Carlsbad Field Office archaeologist, gave a presentation on obsidian source analysis at the 2009 Jornada Mogollon Conference.
- Farmington Field Office
  - Cultural staff made the following presentations:
    - 2009 Pecos Conference to 200 people on the Chaco North Road by Jim Copeland
    - Heights Middle School to 30 people
    - three presentations on archaeology for Career Day at Kirtland Middle School to 60 people.
  - Cultural staff conducted the following tours:
    - Church Rock Chacoan Outlier ACEC for the Chaco Sites Protection Act Interagency Management Group for 8 people
    - San Juan Basin Archaeological Society (Durango, CO) for 25 people
  - Cultural staff conducted the following training:
    - New Mexico Archaeological Council Dinetah workshop for 3 days to 24 people, including tours, by Jim Copeland and Peggy Gaudy
    - Northwest New Mexico Site Stewards to 10 people
    - BLM National Training Center Pipeline Systems Course to 50 people regarding data recovery and associated issues with cultural resources and pipelines by Jim Copeland

- San Juan College field school students on survey techniques for 10 people
  - Cultural staff presented research at a workshop with Chaco road researchers organized by the Solstice Project. Jim Copeland and Peggy Gaudy led the tour on the second day to locations along the Chaco North Road for 25 people.
  - Cultural staff hosted the March 2010 meeting of the Chaco Sites Protection Act Interagency Management Group
- Las Cruces District Office
  - Cultural staff made the following presentations:
    - Hillrise Elementary, Las Cruces, to 100 5<sup>th</sup> graders for Career Day
    - 2 archaeology presentations and one paleontology presentation to 300 7<sup>th</sup> graders for New Mexico Days at Vista Middle School
    - Desert Hills Elementary to 100 kindergartners with a paleontological program at the Prehistoric Trackways National Monument
    - NLCS Symposium presentation at the Society for American Archaeology meetings in St. Louis by Jane Childress
    - 7 papers on various aspects of the Prehistoric Trackways National Monument at the NLCS science symposium in Albuquerque by BLM employees and partners
    - presentation on Pueblo Shrines in the Jornada Mogollon Region at the Tularosa Conference to 200 people and the El Paso Archaeological Society Jornada Conference to 100 people by David Legare
    - presentation on the data collection on El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro to the Camino Real Trail Association to 70 people by David Legare
    - presentation on site looting and its effects on the archaeological record at a meeting of the El Paso Archaeological Society to 150 people by David Legare
  - David Legare headed up his second Passport in Time Program, leading a crew of nine to intensively record three Folsom sites in the Jornada del Muerto.
  - Cultural staff conducted 3 interpretive tours at the Three Rivers Petroglyph Site to 128 people (including 75 children).
  - Youth Initiative: Las Cruces DO hired a Public History student from NMSO to assist the Cultural and Recreation Programs with Heritage Education activities, including Project Archaeology.
- New Mexico State Office
  - Historic Trails Lead Sarah Schlanger gave the following presentations:
    - A presentation at the Old Spanish Trail Association annual meeting
    - 2 presentations at the University of New Mexico Landscape and Historic Preservation summer intensive course
    - Sarah Schlanger also organized a Historic Trails session of 9 papers as part of the NLCS Science Symposium.

- Sarah Schlanger presented the following three papers at professional conferences:
  - A paper in the Society for American Archaeology NLCS symposium
  - An invited presentation at the Society for American Archaeology meetings "Flag and Avoid" forum, on the Permian Basin MOA
  - An invited paper at the Alliance for Historic Landscape Preservation annual meetings on National Historic Trails and viewshed analysis
- Sarah Schlanger developed a Historic Markers Facebook page with the assistance of GeoCorps Intern Laura Bochner.
- New Mexico State Office Archaeologist Signa Larralde served on the Native American consultation panel at a CLES training session on energy development and Section 106 issues.
- NMSO archaeologist Jane Childress attended the Project Archaeology Leadership Academy with partners Eric Blinman and Molly Toll from the New Mexico Office of Archaeological Studies. The Academy taught partners to train teachers to teach Project Archaeology to 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders.
- Rio Puerco Field Office
  - El Malpais NCA rangers Jennifer Schramm and Paul Yoder continued a very active public outreach program, conducting over 30 hikes to cultural resource sites, as well as 17 student presentations in the schools and at the BLM ranger station. They also hosted a booth at the Grants Fair that included cultural resources interpretation. They have been producing curricula for all of their cultural resource school presentations and family hikes, and also putting together artifact kits for school presentations. Sites and topics covered by curricula and artifact kits are: Diego Armijo Homestead, Rowe Homestead, Ranger Station trail, Dittert Site, petroglyphs, bone tools, Ancestral Pueblo, homesteading, Antiquities Act, and "trash."
  - Rio Puerco Field Office archaeologist Gretchen Obenauf conducted 2 guided hikes of archeological sites, accommodating 39 people.
  - Rio Puerco cultural staff gave four professional presentations during FY 10. Two professional papers were presented at the Society for American Archaeology Annual Meetings (authors Cynthia Herhahn and Ron Towner; and Joe Lally). Two papers were presented at the NLCS Science Symposium in Albuquerque (authors Cynthia Herhahn and Ron Towner; and Ed Singleton). The above presentations reached a combined audience of approximately 250.
- Socorro Field Office
  - The cultural staff and partners made the following presentations:
    - Presentation on the Magdalena Trail for the Backcountry Horsemen volunteer group by Brenda Wilkinson
    - Presentation at the NLCS Science Symposium in Albuquerque by Brenda Wilkinson, co-authored with Dr. Andrew Duff and titled



BLM Ranger Jenn Schramm leads a tour to a homestead in EL Malpais NCA.

- *Research Partnerships in Wilderness Study Areas; the Archaeology of Chaco Period Communities and the Challenges of Collaboration*
- Cultural staff assisted with a tour of El Camino Real in the Socorro area for the Camino Real Trail Association, led by volunteer Tom Harper.
- The following publications and presentations by Washington State University faculty and students derived from research conducted through the Chaco Frontier Communities field school, a Challenge Cost Share project administered by Brenda Wilkinson:

Article in Edited Volume:

Duff, Andrew I., and Alissa L. Nauman

2010

Engendering the Landscape: Resource Acquisition, Artifact Manufacture, and Household Organization in a Chacoan Great House Community. In *Engendering Households in the Prehistoric Southwest*, edited by Barbara Roth, pp. 12-33. University of Arizona Press, Tucson.

MA Thesis:

Clark, Lindsey R.

2010 Inferring the Interaction of Two Chaco-Era Communities Through Painted Ceramic Design Analyses. Unpublished Master's Thesis, Department of Anthropology, Washington State University, Pullman.

Conference Posters-Papers-Presentations

Duff, Andrew I.

2010 Producing Structure: The Role of Ceramic Production in Understanding Chaco-period Communities in the American Southwest. Paper presented at the 75th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, St. Louis.

Wilkinson, Brenda, and Andrew I. Duff

2010 Research Partnerships in Wilderness Study Areas: the Archaeology of Chaco Period Communities and the Challenges of Collaboration. Paper presented at the 75th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, St. Louis

Asbury, Sophie

2010 Rim Arcs of Cibola: Feasting on the Pueblo/Mogollon Interface. Poster presented at the 75th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, St. Louis.

Fortin, Louis

2010 Depositional Sequences at Cox Ranch Pueblo, New Mexico: A Geoarchaeological Perspective. Paper presented at the 75th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, St. Louis.

- Taos Field Office: The Taos Field Office cultural staff conducted 18 public presentations for over 260 persons. These presentations included archaeological field trips, school programs, and archaeological society meetings.

Notable planning accomplishments

- Carlsbad Field Office: Archaeologist George MacDonell gave public briefings on the Carlsbad Field Office archaeology program at town hall and Resource Management Plan (RMP) scoping meetings in Artesia, Hobbs, and Carlsbad.
- Farmington Field Office: A previously unprotected portion of the Chaco North Road in federal ownership was designated a part of the existing North Road ACEC via plan maintenance.
- Las Cruces District Office: Cultural resource staff and Pat Hester, the regional paleontologist, are participating on the ID team for the Prehistoric Trackways National Monument RMP. A Draft EIS/Proposed RMP is expected in FY 11.
- Rio Puerco Field Office: Archaeologist Cynthia Herhahn is participating on the ID team for the Rio Puerco Field Office RMP revision, as well as conducting analysis and writing the cultural resources sections of the documents. A Draft EIS/Proposed RMP is expected in FY 11.

- Roswell Field Office:
  - Archaeologist Rebecca Hill is participating on the ID team for the Ft. Stanton-Snowy River National Conservation Area RMP. The scoping process for the RMP was completed in April 2010.
  - A lease agreement was completed with New Mexico State Monuments for the Eddy Cottage, which will be the new BLM headquarters for the NCA. The Eddy Cottage is part of the Ft. Stanton State Monument, designated in 2007.
- Taos Field Office: Paul Williams is participating in the ID team for the Taos Field Office RMP revision. The Draft EIS/Proposed RMP has been released and is presently in the public review and comment period.
- Pat Hester, Regional Paleontologist, participates on the ID teams for all of the above planning efforts, and writes the paleontology sections of the documents.

#### Key Archaeological Resources Protection Act prosecutions

- Carlsbad Field Office cultural staff identified archaeological damage through unauthorized maintenance on an existing Xcel power line in the Maroon Cliffs Archaeological District. Xcel hired TRC to conduct an inventory of the power line and a damage assessment for three sites that had been impacted (LA165706, LA165709, and LA165710). A damage settlement is currently being negotiated by Carlsbad Field Office management.
- Numerous ARPA investigations are ongoing throughout the state and will be reported when they are completed.

#### Heritage program publications and brochures produced

- Farmington Field Office: Preparation of a new pueblitos of Dinétah brochure and map is progressing.

#### Staffing Update

Staffing changes in FY 10 include the following: The Oklahoma Field Office staff was reduced from two to one archeologist, Rick Fields. Pat Flanary, lead archaeologist for the Roswell Field Office, retired and Beckie Hill was promoted to be the new lead archaeologist (the only archaeologist) in Roswell until her old position is filled. Jeremy Iliff was hired as the Carlsbad Field Office archaeological technician. Martin Stein completed a 45 day detail at the BLM Monticello, Utah Field office.

## Awards

One BLM archaeologist was honored this year by an institution outside the agency. Jim Copeland, BLM archaeologist in Farmington, received the Victor J. Stoner award from the Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society. The Stoner award celebrates the promotion of historic awareness and is given to someone who brings Southwestern anthropology, archaeology, ethnology, or history to the public over an extended period of time. The award was presented at the 2010 Pecos Conference.

## Data Sharing

Archaeologist Dave Simons of the New Mexico State Office continues to work with the New Mexico Historic Preservation Division to improve the capacity of the statewide Archaeological Records Management System (ARMS).

- Farmington Field Office: BLM cultural site and ACEC data were scanned and georeferenced for use in GIS on 120 topographic maps.
- Carlsbad Field Office: A project to enter backlog tabular data into NMCRIS was completed by Lone Mountain Archaeological Services. Data entry was completed for approximately 1,800 Carlsbad Field Office archaeological surveys and 1,300 archaeological sites.
- NMSO Cultural Resources Lead Signa Larralde and GIS Lead Allen Bollschweiler attended the Cultural Resources Data Sharing Partnership annual meeting at Asilomar, organized by Kirk Halford.
- The Potential Fossil Yield Classification statewide map developed by Pat Hester and Dave Simons was added to the GIS layers routinely checked for resources during oil and gas lease sale NEPA review and other NEPA project reviews.

## Overall Workload

Workload among field offices continues to be very unevenly distributed, with the majority of undertakings at the two energy pilot offices, Farmington and Carlsbad (Figure 1). Some offices (especially Rio Puerco, Socorro and Taos) have few undertakings but a large number of acres per undertaking – most of those undertakings are surveys done in conjunction with fire and fuels projects. Las Cruces Field Office survey is tied mainly to other kinds of proponent-sponsored projects, such as land exchanges. Figure 2 below shows the average size of undertaking per Field Office for FY10.

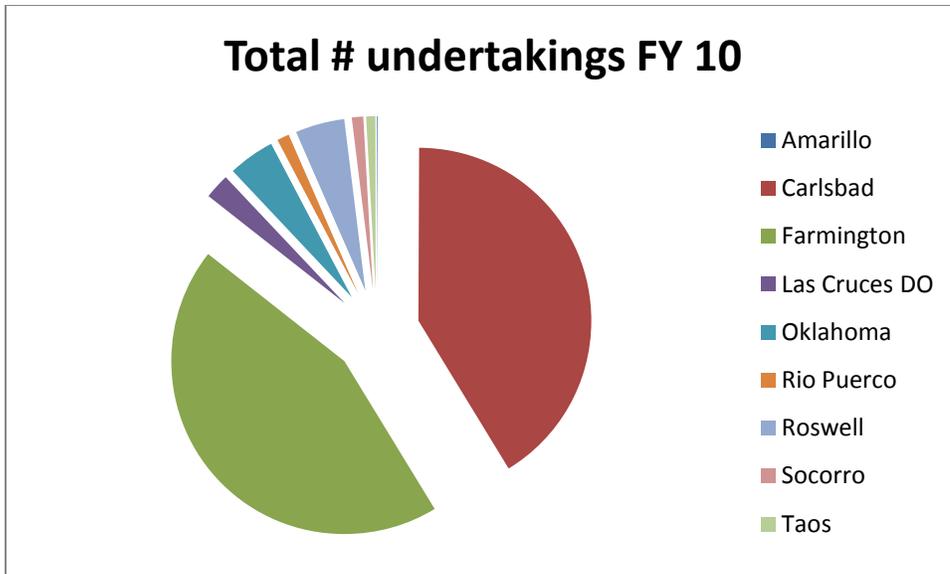


Figure 1. Total Undertakings per Field Office, FY 10

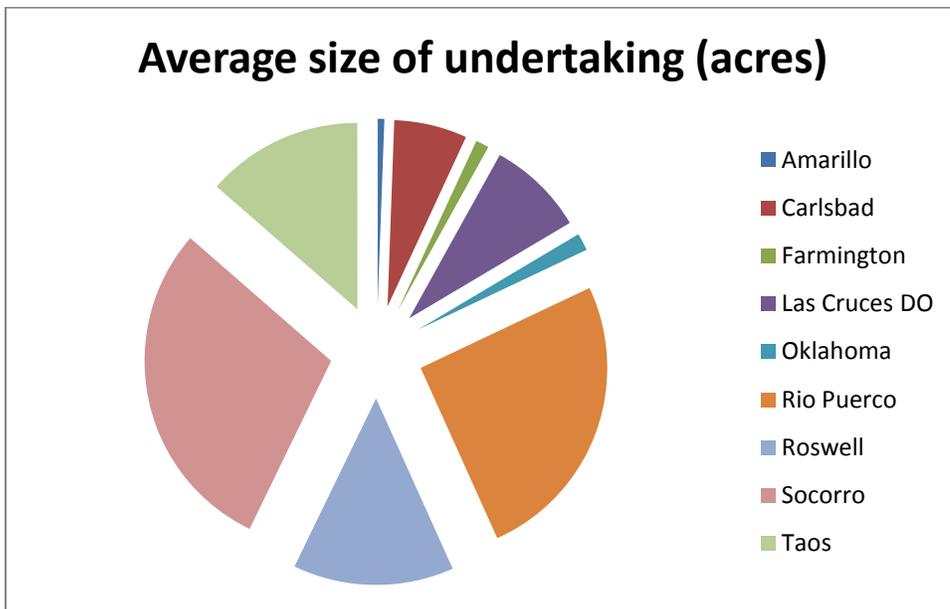


Figure 2. Average Size of Undertakings per Field Office, FY 10

The trend in number of undertakings reflects the general economic down-turn in the Farmington and Carlsbad Field Offices, less so in the other Field Offices, as shown in Figure 3.

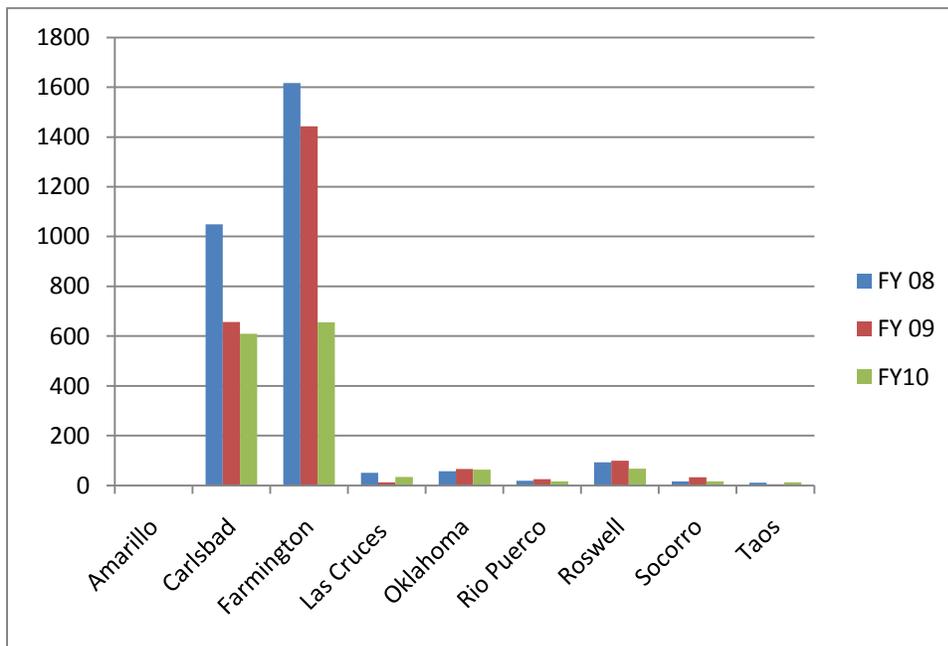


Figure 3. Trend in Number of Undertakings per Year

**New Mexico Cultural Resources Program Activities  
Specified in BLM-SHPO NM Protocol, FY 10**

**Albuquerque District:**

**Rio Puerco Field Office**

*1) Areas of Effect Not Surveyed to 100%*

- Five rights-of-way were renewed following review and determination that the previous inventories were adequate. These rights-of-way renewals had also been determined not to constitute undertakings according to Appendix 11, #7 of the NM Protocol.
- One right-of-way for a communications site was re-issued because it had been determined not to constitute an undertaking according to Appendix 11, #7 of the NM Protocol.
- One right-of-way was amended following review determination that the previous inventory was adequate.
- Two rights-of-way were granted with no inventory required as they had been determined not to constitute undertakings according to Appendix 11, #7 of the NM Protocol. One also met the criteria for Appendix 11, #5.
- Two rights-of-way were granted with no inventory required following review and determination that the previous inventories were adequate.
- Two oil and gas lease sales were approved with no prior inventory. Consultation with Native American tribes to identify traditional cultural properties was done at the leasing stage for these two oil and gas lease sales.
- One range improvement project was approved following review of previous inventory and determination that it was adequate.
- One commercial filming permit was approved after determining that issuing the permit did not constitute an undertaking according to Appendix 11, #1 of the NM Protocol.
- One herbicide treatment project was approved after determining that the action did not constitute an undertaking according to Appendix 11, #2 of the NM Protocol.

*2) Areas Considered So Disturbed That No Inventory Was Required*

None.

*3) Post-Review Discoveries*

None.

*4) BLM/SHPD Disagreements Concerning Undertakings*

None.

*5) Monitoring of Sites Within Old Land Exchanges*

None.

*6) Data recovery projects submitted to the Data Recovery Team*

None.

## Socorro Field Office

### *1) Areas of Effect Not Surveyed to 100%*

- Nine grazing permit renewal EAs were signed off without additional inventory, however class I records reviews were conducted and reports written based on existing data.
- An aerial mapping project proposed by the DTRA (Defense Threat Reduction Agency) was approved without inventory . The project involved a small model airplane with a camera mounted, and required no ground facilities or off-road vehicle access.
- The Bordo Atravesado Wild Horse Gather, which involves attracting horses to an existing corral with water, was approved without inventory because no surface disturbance was proposed.
- The Shaw Mountain Fuel wood project was approved with only class I records review. The proposal was for hand cutting of trees with no off-road vehicle access.
- A Special Recreation Permit was approved for an Endurance Horse Race on existing roads.
- The renewal of a lease for the Pie Town landfill (with no changes) was approved without inventory.
- Five units within the East Magdalena Thinning Project were approved without additional inventory. The project does not involve off-road vehicle use and no surface disturbance is expected. A class 1 literature search was done and known sites that could be impacted are being excluded from the project area.

### *2) Areas Considered So Disturbed That No Inventory Was Required*

- Cleanout of the Battan Dirt tank was approved. All areas, including the existing access road and existing tank, are previously disturbed.

### *3) Post-Review Discoveries*

- None

### *4) BLM/SHPO Disagreements Concerning Undertakings*

- None

### *5) Monitoring of Sites Within Old Land Exchanges*

- Not Applicable

### *6) Data recovery projects submitted to the Data Recovery Team*

- None

## Farmington District:

### Farmington Field Office

#### 1) *Areas of Effect Not Surveyed to 100%*

- 50 undertakings were not required to have any survey because existing Class III survey existed and was deemed adequate.
- 5 undertakings were not required to have any survey because the action was not ground disturbing (e.g., chemical treatments, travel on existing roads, tower modifications) or the potential to affect was otherwise determined to be negligible (e.g., removing noxious weeds in a canyon bottom with simple hand tools).

#### 2) *Areas Considered So Disturbed That No Inventory Was Required*

- 20 undertakings were not required to have any survey because natural and previous human activity had significantly modified or created a new land surface unlikely to have remnants of cultural remains (e.g. active flood plains, existing well pads).

#### 3) *Post-Review Discoveries*

- Three undertakings resulted in the discovery of unanticipated cultural properties during construction. This does not include a small number of "discoveries" of additional cultural materials while archaeological contractors were establishing monitoring barriers and the like, resulting in minor modifications to the undertaking to avoid the remains.
  - San Juan 30-6 27E/27N [BLM Rpt. 2010(II)034F]: The cultural materials were discovered near LA164933 during well pad construction. They consisted of 2m by 4 meter dark stained soil with a depth of at least 7 cm and a bright orange oxidized area about 5 m in diameter. Construction halted. Treatment plan is in preparation.
  - Rosa Unit SWD #1 pipe [BLM Rpt. 2010(II)059F]: A pit feature was discovered during trenching in vicinity of LA 148074. The feature was protected in place and a treatment plan is in preparation.
  - West Rosa Geophysical [BLM Rpt. 2009(IV)081F]: The undertaking was allowed to proceed based on preliminary reports in accordance with the BLM state handbook. Spot checks on the preliminary report revealed no issues. A 10% sample compliance check after receipt of the survey report found no less than 4 missed unrecorded sites and 2 recorded sites that were missed by the survey. Steps are being taken to require the archaeological contractor to conduct extensive re-survey and assess effects, if any, from shot holes or other activities.

4) *BLM/SHPO Disagreements Concerning Undertakings*

None.

5) *Monitoring of Sites Within Old Land Exchanges*

Not applicable.

6) *Data recovery projects submitted to the Data Recovery Review Team*

- A data recovery plan was submitted by the San Juan College CRMP in October 2009, prepared for the City of Farmington Department of Public Works for construction of Panther Road, which would impact site LA 68920.

LA 68920 was originally recorded in 1988 (Reed) by the Division of Conservation Archaeology (DCA) during inventory of a cathodic protection line and described as an aceramic camp/activity area with two clusters of fire-cracked rock and two stains (Features 1 and 2) interpreted as possible hearths. Features 1 and 2 were both located in Cluster 1. Artifacts in Cluster 1 included a broken sandstone mano, two secondary quartzite cobble flakes, and a tertiary flake of silicified palm root. Artifacts in Cluster 2 included a broken sandstone mano, an indeterminate ground stone fragment, and two secondary igneous river cobble flakes. It was noted that Cluster 2 was bisected by an intermittent drainage and artifacts in the drainage below Cluster 2 included flake debitage, an orange/red quartzite scraper, and a ground stone/fire-cracked rock fragment. The flake debitage consisted of primary and secondary igneous and quartzite flakes with only three tertiary waste flakes. Based on potential for additional data, the site was recommended eligible for nomination to the National Register for Historic Places (NRHP).

The site was revisited in 1996 by Western Cultural Resources Management during inventory for the Piedra Vista High School campus, but not updated (Gibson 1996). The site was re-evaluated and updated in 1997 by Cultural Resources Management Consultants during a pipeline inventory (Robinson 1997), with a few additional artifacts and the absence of a visible manifestation of Feature 2, one of the possible hearths, noted. Robinson (1997) noted an additional flat river cobble metate and a petrified wood core in Cluster 1. Other artifacts noted included at least 5 manos, and one metate fragment not previously noted. Based on this documentation, the site was formally determined eligible for nomination to the NRHP by the agency.

The Team provided recommendations for minor changes to the plan, including the addition of phytolith and starch analyses if applicable, obsidian sourcing, site protection during treatment, thermoluminescence sampling and dating, reporting requirements, flotation sampling and screen sizing. These comments were addressed in an amendment to the Data Recovery Plan.

Following Native American Consultation conducted by the Farmington Field Office for the proposed treatment, an ARPA permit was issued to the Division of Conservation Archaeology (DCA), as the San Juan College CRMP determined they would be unable to perform the work, and closed in June 2010.

The results of the treatment were outlined in a preliminary report submitted to the BLM Farmington Field Office. The site proved to be shallow, with a single sub-surface hearth, and a handful of lithic and ground stone artifacts. Two projectile points were recovered, of middle-late archaic age. Radiocarbon and TL samples have been submitted for analyses, and the other analyses and final reporting are ongoing.

## **Taos Field Office**

### 1) *Areas of Effect Not Surveyed to 100 Percent:*

- Nine range allotments were the subject of staff visits for grazing permit renewals. Six of these allotments were visited by a Taos Field Office Archaeologist. The other three allotments were not visited based on review of existing data, and because they were adjacent to allotments that had been visited previously. Permit renewal procedures for Taos include: 1. review of existing data, 2. reconnaissance inventory based on review, and 3. Class III inventory for future range projects involving earth-disturbing activities.

### 2) *Areas Considered So Disturbed That No Inventory Was Required:*

- Seven Rights-of-Way were permitted. Six of these were reassignments or renewals, and one was a new permit. All of these use existing roads with no new earth disturbing activities allowed outside of the ROW. All the areas are totally disturbed.
- The Ojo Sarco aquatic riparian stabilization and enhancement project was visited by the TFO archaeologist and it was determined that an inventory was not needed because all possible earth disturbing activities were proposed within the narrow river channel. The area is completely disturbed.
- Marques color-of-title: .35 acre was the subject of this project. The area is completely disturbed since the Marques family has been living in a trailer on the small parcel for many years. No inventory was required.

Archaeology (CNMA) under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act. 3) *Post-Review Discoveries:*

None.

### 4) *BLM/SHPO Disagreements Concerning Undertakings:*

None.

### 5) *Monitoring of Sites Within Old Land Exchanges:*

No monitoring of sites took place on the Stanley exchange property.

### 6) *Data Recovery Projects Submitted to the Data Review Team:*

- The one Taos Field Office data recovery plan reviewed by the team was for treatment at a single site, for ongoing operations of the NM Army National

Guard Training Units in the Camel Tracks area outside Santa Fe. The Office of Contract Archaeology at the University of New Mexico submitted the plan for review in July. The plan proposed treatment of site LA112841, which includes the remnants of a masonry field house and four alignments of basalt cobbles thought to be the remains of contour terraces constructed for agricultural purposes. The small ceramic assemblage recorded during previous survey includes types that are only broadly temporally diagnostic, indicating site use at some time between A.D. 900 and 1500. The small artifact assemblage and apparent shallowness of the cultural deposits suggest that the site was used intermittently and seasonally.

Comments from the Team on the plan were limited to the addition of pollen analyses, and consideration of pollen sampling results work at similar sites in the region.

Following Native American Consultation conducted by the Taos Field Office for the proposed treatment, an ARPA permit was issued to OCA. The fieldwork has not commenced at this time.

### **Las Cruces District Office**

- 1) *Areas of Effect Not Surveyed to 100%*  
None.
- 2) *Areas Considered So Disturbed That No Inventory Was Required*  
None.
- 3) *Post-Review Discoveries*  
None.
- 4) *BLM/SHPO Disagreements Concerning Undertakings*  
None.
- 5) *Monitoring of Sites Within Old Land Exchanges*  
Five sites within old land exchanges were monitored.
- 6) *Data recovery projects submitted to the Data Recovery Review Team*  
None.

### **Pecos District**

#### **Roswell Field Office**

- 1) *Areas of Effect Not Surveyed to 100%*
  - A Watershed Rehabilitation Project along the Rio Bonito within RBAL Track 4 was not surveyed to 100%. The project called for 200 feet on either

side of the Rio Bonito to be surveyed, but the concentration of alkali sacaton prevented complete survey because the ground surface was obscured.

- Three pinyon-juniper thinning projects approved – The projects entail cutting pinyon and juniper at ground level; no heavy equipment is used; all pinyon and juniper trees are hand cut and piled; all known archaeological sites are avoided.
- Nine oil and gas legacy reclamation projects were authorized within previously inventoried areas.
- Two cell towers were authorized within previously inventoried areas.

2) *Areas Considered So Disturbed That No Inventory Was Required*

No inventory was required on one oil field reclamation project near Milnesand, NM: 15,225 feet of access road (approximately 10.5 acres) to be reclaimed were not surveyed. In the 1950s, the land owner leveled the area for cultivation by pushing the dunes into a berm.

3) *Post-Review Discoveries*

None.

4) *BLM/SHPO Disagreements Concerning Undertakings*

None.

5) *Monitoring of Sites Within Old Land Exchanges*

Not applicable.

6) *Data recovery projects submitted to the Data Recovery Review Team*

None.

## **Carlsbad Field Office**

1) *Areas of Effect Not Surveyed to 100%*

- NEPA Project 10-0832, National Public Lands Day Project, was approved without archaeological inventory because the project involved trash collection along the Pecos River at Six Mile dam and would require no surface disturbance.
- A series of small scale star pattern seismic projects (NEPA Projects 10-0371, 10-0455, 10-0597, and 10-0808) were approved without additional archaeological inventory. Placement of geo-phones was conducted by walking only. The projects utilized the downhole fracturing process as the seismic source, requiring no surface disturbance. Known archaeological sites were avoided by the hand placement of geo-phones.
- The Mimosa Prescribed Fire was approved without 100% cultural inventory. The project utilized existing roads as control lines and no earth disturbance

(draglines or bulldozer lines) was required. The burn areas were piles of salt cedar that had been previously removed and stacked.

- In accordance with a programmatic consultation with the New Mexico SHPO, routine grazing permit renewals were authorized following review of existing information. In FY 2010, 45 grazing permits were renewed under this provision.
- Eighty-three rights-of-way were renewed by assignment or amendment with a stipulation that no new surface disturbance is permitted. Specific permission from BLM will be required for any action that might result in surface disturbance and a Class III inventory would be required at that time.
- A series of 18 separate mesquite control / vegetation management projects were approved without 100% archaeological inventory. These projects involved no surface disturbance, only aerial application of herbicide. These projects were also covered by a previous Programmatic Environmental Assessment.
- Two well pad applications (NEPA Projects 10-0034 and 10-1060) were extended without archaeological inventory. These projects involved no additional earth disturbance.
- Four oil & gas lease sale reviews were conducted in the Carlsbad Field Office. Proposed lease sale parcels were reviewed for cultural resources and standard cultural resource protection stipulations were added to each lease sale parcel. Tribal consultation was conducted for each lease sale to identify and address Native American concerns. These lease sales had no specific surface disturbance associated with them, and no archaeological inventory was conducted of these parcels. Any subsequent development proposals will require Section 106 review.
- Between 08/24/2009 and 08/24/2010, a total of 500 projects were reviewed through the Permian Basin MOA alternative compliance process. These projects included 330 well pads, 59 pipelines, 21 roads, 89 electric lines, and 1 seismic project. Contributions of \$904,676.95 were made by industry to mitigate the potential impacts of these projects. Mitigation projects implemented by the Permian Basin Advisory Workgroup during this time include completion of a contract to inventory 3,310 acres of high probability BLM land within the MOA boundary, completion of fieldwork for an ethnographic inventory within the CFO boundary with the Mescalero Apache Tribe, completion of a Permian Basin Data Comparability Workshop, completion of archaeological testing fieldwork at the Laguna Plata site, completion of testing fieldwork at the Boot Hill site, and award of a contract to conduct archaeological recording at the Burro Tanks site in the Roswell Field Office. In addition, a total of 9 small research grants were awarded to researchers working on projects in Southeastern New Mexico.

## 2) Areas Considered So Disturbed That No Inventory Was Required

- NEPA Project 10-0066, the Great Bear Park #3 & New Mexico #4 flow lines, were approved without an archaeological inventory as the locations were within a previously disturbed right of way.
- NEPA Project 10-0315, the Versado AGI #1 Salt Water Disposal line, was approved without archaeological inventory because the right of way was completely within a previously disturbed well pad.
- NEPA Project 10-0380, the Magruder 18, 20, 21, 22 well pad locations, was approved without archaeological inventory because the activity included 75' x 75' well pads within previous disturbance in the footprint of existing well pads and roads.
- NEPA Project 10-0520, the Mobley Tire Tubs placement project, was approved without archaeological inventory because the tire tub was placed in an existing previously disturbed caliche pit.
- NEPA Project 10-694, the Rainbow 16 State Com 1H, is located at the surface on State of New Mexico Trust Land. This well was originally planned to drill into non-federal minerals, but the bottom hole was later changed to a location within federal minerals. The proponent received approval to construct an access road and well pad from the New Mexico State Land Office and these facilities were already constructed when the BLM received the project for review.
- NEPA Project 10-0991, the Clayton Lake Salt Cedar removal project, was approved without inventory because it was located within a water scoured area with no potential for archaeological resources.
- NEPA Project 10-0992, the GJSAU No 34, was approved without archaeological inventory because the project was located on a previously disturbed well pad.
- NEPA Project 10-0996, the Six Mile Island Wildlife Nesting Boxes project, was approved without archaeological inventory because the project was located on a sandbar within the Pecos River with no potential for archaeological resources.
- NEPA Project 10-1001, the #1 Hackberry Federal, was approved without archaeological inventory because the project was a re-entry on a previously disturbed well pad.

## 3) Post-Review Discoveries

- On January 21, 2010, unauthorized trespass activity was identified within the boundaries of the Maroon Cliffs Archaeological District Special Management Area. Investigations revealed that Xcel Energy had conducted maintenance along an existing power line without archaeological inventory or clearance.

BLM had Xcel contract an archaeological inventory of the power line and a damage assessment (completed by TRC). BLM law enforcement ensured compliance by Xcel. Based on the results of the inventory and damage assessment, BLM Management negotiated a settlement of \$188,000 which was contributed to a third party damage assessment account managed by the Center of Excellence for Hazardous Materials Management (CEHMM). These funds will be utilized in the near future to conduct mitigative archaeological projects.

#### *4) BLM/SHPO Disagreements Concerning Undertakings*

Between August 2009 and August 2010, the BLM Carlsbad Field Office submitted to SHPO a total of 654 projects that had been reviewed and approved by BLM in accordance with our state protocol. The following discrepancies were noted after subsequent SHPO review:

In the Carlsbad Field Office's December 2009 monthly submission, the BLM determined that project 10-NM-523-134 would have "No Effect." The SHPO reviewer's opinion was that this project should have been considered "No Adverse Effect."

In the Carlsbad Field Office's June 2010 monthly submission, the SHPO reviewer had a number of disagreements with the BLM's submission:

- BLM approved of letter report formats for five projects that had previous archaeological survey coverage. The SHPO reviewer requested that ARMS maps be included with letter report (waiver) submissions. The reviewer also felt that two of these projects had sites that should have been updated due to their proximity to the project APE.
- The SHPO reviewer felt that the report for H Bar Y and Azotea Mesa Water Pipelines was incomplete. The reviewer felt that State Trust and private lands in the vicinity of the right of way should have been inventoried and that funding sources for the project (to indicate BLM's Section 106 nexus for the project) should have been included in the narrative.
- The SHPO reviewer commented that the ARMS record search for project 10-0472 was incomplete.
- The BLM determined that project 09-0473 would have "No Effect." The SHPO reviewer did not concur and felt that the project would have "No Adverse Effect" to Site LA13202.
- The BLM determined that project 08-0528 would have "No Effect" on Sites LA147398 and LA147399. The SHPO reviewer felt the project would have an "Adverse Effect" on the two sites. However, as noted in the BLM's Record of Review, the project location was moved to a different location, resulting in "No Effect" to the sites. The SHPO reviewer also felt that two Isolated Occurrences identified through this inventory should have been considered

together and would qualify as a site.

- On monitoring reports to avoid impacts during construction, the SHPO reviewer required that all sites subjected to monitoring should have site updates. BLM did not require site updates for sites that had been recorded within the past year.
- As a condition of approval for a project, the BLM had a contractor monitor activities in proximity to sites LA44045 and LA21177 on State Trust Lands. The SHPO reviewer objected to the fact that the consultant did not submit a monitoring plan to the CPRC for approval prior to the project.
- The BLM allowed project 10-0472 to proceed because it had previous archaeological survey coverage. The SHPO reviewer noted that not all previously recorded sites were included on the consultant's project area map and felt that a more complete map perhaps would have prompted a more complete survey. However, the project was reviewed on the BLM GIS system and found to have no sites in the APE prior to approval for a letter report waiver.

Many of the discrepancies were discussed with the SHPO reviewer on the telephone. The BLM explained that many of the inventory reports that identified sites where the SHPO reviewer had concerns were for projects that had been relocated or abandoned in order to avoid impacting cultural resources. There does however appear to be some discrepancy in the determination of "No Effect" as opposed to "No Adverse Effect" between the two agencies.

*5) Monitoring of Sites Within Old Land Exchanges*

None.

*6) Data recovery projects submitted to the Data Recovery Team*

None.